

Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

NIC-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /090 W
----- 052162

R 250400Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8004

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CH

SUBJ: NCNA REPORTS ANTI-CHINESE RIOTS IN BANDUNG

SUMMARY: PEKING HAS TAKEN BELATED PUBLIC NOTE OF THE ANTI-CHINESE INCIDENTS IN BANDUNG AND TJIANDJUR TOWN, INDONESIA, CLAIMING THAT THE DEMAND OF THE "INDONESIAN PEOPLE" IS FOR FIRM MEASURES TO PUNISH THE RINGLEADERS AND PREVENT THEIR RECURRENCE.
END SUMMARY

1. NINETEEN DAYS AFTER THE ANTI-CHINESE RIOTS IN BANDUNG, PEKING (NCNA AUGUST 24) HAS TAKEN ITS FIRST PUBLIC NOTE OF THE INCIDENT. NCNA BLAMES THE INCIDENT ON "HOOLIGANS... UNDER THE INSTIGATION OF A SMALL NUMBER OF INDONESIAN REACTIONARIES" AND QUOTES "MERDEKA" THAT THE INCIDENT WAS "MUCH MORE SERIOUS THAN THE 'MAY 10' RACIAL INCIDENT TEN YEARS AGO." THE NCNA ARTICLE SAID THE INCIDENT WAS AN "ORGANIZED ACTION", THAT INDONESIAN ARMY AND AIR FORCE OFFICERS WERE REPORTEDLY
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INVOLVED, AND QUOTES INDONESIAN OFFICIALS THAT "SOME PEOPLE

TOOK ADVANTAGE OF AND MANIPULATED THE INCIDENT" WHICH "WAS CARRIED OUT ACCORDING TO A WELL WORKED-OUT PLAN." IT CONCLUDES THAT THIS AND THE AUGUST 8 TJIANDJUR TOWN INCIDENTS "HAVE CAUSED GREAT LOSSES TO THE CHINESE RESIDENTS IN INDONESIA" AND HAVE "AROUSSED CONCERN AMONG PUBLIC OPINION IN INDONESIA AND ABROAD." THE "INDONESIAN PEOPLE" ARE SAID TO BE "DEMANDING THAT THE INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES TAKE FIRM MEASURES TO SEVERELY PUNISH THE RINGLEADERS OF THE ANTI-CHINESE INCIDENTS AND PREVENT THE OCCURRENCE OF SIMILAR INCIDENTS.

2. COMMENT: THIS BELATED AND LOW KEY COMMENT BY NCNA REFLECTS CURRENT EFFORTS BY PEKING TO DOWNPLAY THE PROBLEMS OF OVERSEAS CHINESE AND THEIR CONTACT WITH THE PRC WITHOUT APPEARING TO IGNORE THEM ALTOGETHER. THE PURPORTED DEMAND OF THE "INDONESIAN PEOPLE"--RATHER THAN THE PRC, WORLD OPINION, OR EVEN CHINESE IN INDONESIA--THAT THE GOVERNMENT TAKE FIRM ACTION INDICATES CLEARLY THE LINE THE PRC IS FOLLOWING.
OSBORN

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